

OLD CATTON NEWSLETTER



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Dear Parents

Last week I was not able to complete a celebration assembly on Thursday which means this week we will have a double whammy! All the names from both weeks will be published in next week's newsletter and I look forward to congratulating all the children who have achieved a certificate.

Mrs Wright's Maths App of the Week!

A game that enables a fun way to learn prime numbers. 3 levels of difficulty.



This Week is Reading Week!

Your children will be focusing on a water themed reading project this week. Year 5/6 will be reading Kensuke's Kingdom and year 3/4 will be reading Water Horse. Every child will be coming home with a copy of their own book. This book is for them to keep. We ask that they bring the text into school every day during the reading week as they will need it for their lessons. We are also asking that the children complete reading from the book every night this week. This is part of their homework. They will need to complete this in order to best access the next day's lessons and we would really appreciate your help in encouraging them to do so. It is fine to read with them or to them and get involved in the book too!

A recap of the important dates this week for our reading week:

Thursday 19th November between 2:00pm - 3:15pm –

Parents are invited to come into school to complete some work with their children in their classes. (If Parents can't make it into school we are quite happy to see Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles or older siblings!)

Friday 20th November - Gillian McClure will be signing and selling her books from 3:15pm after school. Please come along and see her work and if you would like, bring your money to purchase a book.

Book titles available on Friday and costs:

Mouse in the House - paperback, (RP £6.99) £6 (discount)

Flood - paperback, (RP £6.99) £6(discount)

We're Going to Build a Dam – paperback, (RP £6.99) £6 (discount)

Zoe's Boat – paperback, (RP £6.99) £6 (discount)

The Little White Sprite - paperback (RP £5.99) £5 (discount)

Selkie – paperback, (RP £5.99) £5 (discount)

Tom Finger – paperback, (RP £5.99) £5 (discount)

Bruna - hardback, (RP £10.99) £10 (discount)

What Happened to the Picnic? -hardback, £5 (discount)
Tog the Ribber - hardback, £5 (discount)

If you would like to see images of these books and read more about them go to the BOOKS page of Gillian's website: www.gillianmcclure.com

Prefect Interviews

Last week Mrs Pellatt, Mrs Hewett and I conducted the Prefect interviews. All of the pupils we interviewed impressed us with their ideas, answers to questions, manners and pride that they clearly have in being a pupil at Old Catton Junior School. It was a pleasure to interview everyone and be part of the process of selecting this year's Prefects. Everyone who applied and was interviewed should be very proud of themselves.

I am very pleased to be able to say that the following 11 pupils have been successful and will be donning blazers this year in order to carry out their Prefect roles. Congratulations to:

**Fred Viner
Owen Tuttle
Kade Warner
Jeya Kandola
Lottie Sanderson
Lola Thompson
Erin Greengrass
Alyssa Hoogesteger
Rhiannon Andrews
Lucy Moscrop
Amelie Orr**

Children in Need - Friday 13th November

As ever the children made a fantastic effort in support of Children in Need. On Friday they slipped into Lycra suits, donned their masks and pulled on their capes to become Superheroes. They all had a great time showing off their costumes and pulling superhero poses in our special assembly.

At break time we were all able to choose from to a yummy selection of cakes and biscuits at the bake sale which the School Council organised and ran. A massive thank you to parents for creating fantastic costumes, baking delicious cakes and sending your children with money to spend. We're pleased to tell you the children raised **£239.51** for Children in Need. Brilliant work everyone!





Cake sale in action.



Super Heroes!!!

Help at the School Disco and the Christmas Event

If you would like to offer your services and help out at the disco, (**Thursday 26th November 6-8pm**) or the Christmas Event, (**Friday 27th in the afternoon until 5:30pm**) please come and write your name down on the two sheets I have placed in the foyer. We would really appreciate your help to make these events run as smoothly and successfully as possible. Many thanks in advance.

Remembrance Day 2015

On Wednesday 11th November the school observed the Remembrance Day silence at 11am and had a special assembly before hand. I was very impressed by the way conducted themselves, showing the utmost the silence and the meaning behind it. That



pupils and staff.

Hilltop

On the 9th, 10th and 11th of November Miss Gedge, Ms Woolly and Mr Semmens took year 5 to Hilltop near Sheringham on the North-Norfolk coast. A cold and wet first day saw year 5 stacking crates and perfecting their archery skills, shooting balloons as well as targets. There were bullseyes aplenty and some real perseverance as the children climbed the crates and worked as a team to stack them high enough to ring a bell. A lovely meal of bangers and mash and a game outside in the pitch black rounded off a great day.

Day two and after a massive breakfast we were off to the Big Zipper, assault course and the climbing wall. Many of the children really pushed themselves and, despite some being very tired after little sleep, they were up for a challenge. We were wrapped up warm but pretty muddy as we returned to the centre. After a lovely roast dinner we were off out again to play 'Owls and Mice' in the woods, again in the darkness of the countryside.

Our last day saw year 5 climbing up on the 'high ropes' doing some very scary stuff like jumping off platforms and balancing on see-saws 20 feet in the air! The group took part in some team tasks which had them work as a team to solve some complex problems like escaping from the Titanic! After our final meal we were back on the coach waving goodbye to Abbie, Adam, Jake and the rest of the instructors. When we got back to school the trip had really taken its toll and the children all fell asleep on the desks! What a lovely trip, the school was really well represented by some very well behaved year 5s.

I am hugely thankful to Mr Semmens, Miss Gedge and Ms Woolly for taking the children away for three days. The residential trips we do would not be possible if staff did not volunteer to give up their own time and for this I am very grateful. Thank you very much!





(author, penman, creative writer, scribbler, scribe, pen-pusher, hack)

In Big Talk, we use 'WOW' Words to improve our vocabulary and 'big up' our sentences to make them more interesting!

Our 'WOW' Word this week is;

Wordsmith

Please encourage your child to use this word, in the right context, as much as possible.

- The 'Talk Homework' and 'WOW' words will be set every Monday in the newsletter; children will then share their 'Talk' with their class on a Friday afternoon.
- We will encourage the children to use the WOW word throughout the week.

Thank you for your support in helping your child.



Paris

Today we marked the attacks in Paris with a minute's silence. We did not want to worry the children and simply explained that due to the awful events on Friday the whole of Europe would be silent to show respect and solidarity with France.



TALK HOMEWORK & WOW WORDS

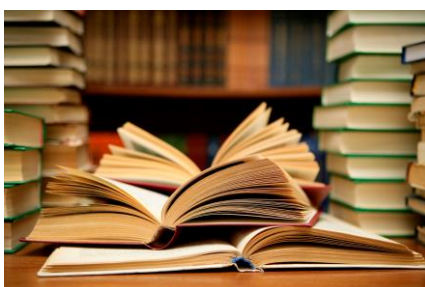


Each week we send a Talk Homework activity and 'Wow' Words home and we would be very grateful for your support.

We are trying to help all our children develop excellent speaking and listening skills, which in turn will help them with their writing. "If a child can't say a sentence then they can't write it either!"

Please spend at least 10 minutes talking with your child about the questions below;

If you were to write a book what would it be about? What would it be called? Would genre would it be? Would it be fiction or non-fiction? What would the cover look like? What would it be called?



Please do not hesitate to come into school and speak to me or another member of staff if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great week!

Mrs K Connelly.